

Appl. No. 09/907,021  
Amendment dated August 10, 2005

**Amendments to the Drawings:**

NONE.

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Without acquiescing or waiving any argument concerning any other rejection of the claims, applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of claims 6 and 8 by the Final Action.

Claims 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Luce (U.S. Patent No. 1,201,748) in view of Belcher et al. (U.S. Patent No. 1,956,942). Luce discloses a power transmission chain having adjacent series of drive links interleaved along the chain direction. The chain of Luce engages a sprocket having series of sprocket teeth that are spaced to accept a drive link between adjacent sprocket teeth. Luce does not teach a chain that drives a sprocket from both sides of the chain and does not teach a chain having drive links that form two teeth at the front side of the chain. Belcher et al. discloses a power transmission chain that drives sprockets from both sides of the chain. The chain of Belcher et al. is formed by links that form two teeth at one surface of the link. Those links form adjacent rows in which the teeth of links in adjacent rows face in opposite directions (front and back). The chain of Belcher et al. engages a sprocket by accepting a sprocket tooth between teeth formed by links in a row. Page 1, lines 82 – 85, 91 – 95. Rows of links that are adjacent to a row of links that engage a sprocket tooth form teeth that face away from the sprocket. Those adjacent rows of links are accepted between adjacent sprocket teeth. Figs. 4 and 6, Page 1 lines 88 – 90, 95 – 97. Belcher et al. does not teach a power transmission chain that forms teeth only at the front side of the chain nor does Belcher et al. teach a sprocket that engages a chain only by positioning sprocket teeth between adjacent teeth of the chain.

Neither Luce nor Belcher et al. disclose a chain having interleaved series of links that form two teeth at a front side of the chain. As acknowledged by the Final Action, Luce doesn't disclose links forming teeth. Belcher et al. discloses a chain having interleaved rows of links that form two teeth. However, the drive links of adjacent rows of links face in opposite directions. Figs. 2 – 6, page 1 lines 56 – 59. Neither Luce nor Belcher et al. discloses a chain in which each link forms two teeth at the front side of the chain as now required by claim 6.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness under 35 U.S.C. §103 requires that “the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim

limitations.” MPEP §706.02(j). Neither Luce nor Belcher et al. teach a chain having links that each form teeth at one side of the chain. That limitation is absent from the cited prior art. While Belcher et al. teaches a chain that drives sprockets from both sides of the chain, Belcher teaches that the chain engages sprockets at both sides by the same engagement, not, as required by claim 6, by a chain formed for conventional silent chain engagement at the front side and by accepting a chain link between adjacent sprocket teeth at the back side. A chain formed for different engagement of sprockets at the front side and the back side, as required by claim 6, is not taught or suggested by either Luce or Belcher et al. That limitation is also absent from the cited prior art. The relied on combination of Luce and Belcher et al. does not establish a prima facie case of obviousness. The applicants request that the rejection of claim 6 based on that combination be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Claim 8 depends from claim 6. The applicants assert that claim is also allowable for at least the reasons that claim 6 is allowable.

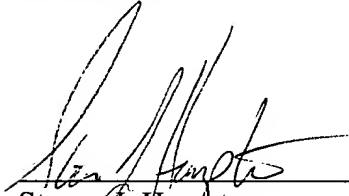
#### **Conclusion**

For the reasons set out above the Applicants submit that claims 6 and 8 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a discussion of these claims would be useful, the Applicants request that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at (312) 775-8114. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to the deposit account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd., Account No. 13-0017.

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Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven J. Hampton", is written over a horizontal line.

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